

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 652

Introduced by Assembly Member Leno

February 19, 2003

~~An act to amend Sections 4980.02 and 4996.9 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to~~ *An act to amend Section 4980.44 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to healing arts.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 652, as amended, Leno. ~~Healing arts—Marriage and family therapist interns.~~

Existing law describes the qualifications for employment as an unlicensed marriage and family therapist intern, requires an intern to be registered with the Board of Behavioral Sciences and limits the number of times any intern may renew his or her registration. Existing law authorizes an applicant who is no longer able to renew his or her registration, to apply for and obtain new intern registration status if he or she meets certain educational requirements. Existing law requires an applicant who obtains this new intern status to fulfill all required hours of experience for licensure within that intern registration period, and provides, that hours of experience fulfilled under a prior intern registration cannot be used to satisfy licensure requirements.

This bill would delete the requirement that the applicant fulfill the hours of work experience within the new registration period, and the

provision that the hours of experience fulfilled under a prior intern registration cannot be used to satisfy licensure requirements.

~~(1) Existing law regulates and licenses the marriage and family therapists and defines the practice of marriage and family therapy.~~

~~This bill would revise this definition to include diagnosis, and would define it as the act or process of identifying or determining the mental status of an individual through examination, and the opinion derived from that examination.~~

~~(2) Existing law regulates the practice of clinical social workers by the Board of Behavioral Sciences and defines the practice of clinical social workers.~~

~~This bill would revise this definition to include the application of specialized clinical knowledge and advanced clinical skills in the areas of assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders, conditions, and addictions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1.—Section 4980.02 of the Business and Professions~~

2 ~~SECTION 1. Section 4980.44 of the Business and Professions~~

3 ~~Code is amended to read:~~

4 4980.44. (a) An unlicensed marriage and family therapist
5 intern employed under this chapter shall:

6 (1) Have earned at least a master's degree as specified in
7 Section 4980.40.

8 (2) Be registered with the board prior to the intern performing
9 any duties, except as otherwise provided in subdivision (e) of
10 Section 4980.43.

11 (3) File for renewal of registration annually for a maximum of
12 five years after initial registration with the board. Renewal of
13 registration shall include filing an application for renewal, paying
14 a renewal fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75), and notifying the board
15 whether he or she has been convicted, as defined in Section 490,
16 of a misdemeanor or felony, or whether any disciplinary action has
17 been taken by any regulatory or licensing board in this or any other
18 state, subsequent to the registrant's last renewal.

19 (4) Inform each client or patient prior to performing any
20 professional services that he or she is unlicensed and under the

1 supervision of a licensed marriage and family therapist, licensed
2 clinical social worker, licensed psychologist, licensed physician
3 certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and
4 Neurology, or a licensed physician who has completed a residency
5 in psychiatry and who is described in subdivision (f) of Section
6 4980.40, whichever is applicable. Continued employment as an
7 unlicensed marriage and family therapist intern shall cease after
8 six years unless the requirements of subdivision (b) are met. No
9 registration shall be renewed or reinstated beyond the six years
10 from initial issuance regardless of whether it has been revoked.

11 (b) When no further renewals are possible, either because the
12 applicant has exhausted the number of renewals available or
13 because of the repeal of Section 4980.44, as amended by Chapter
14 1114 of the Statutes of 1991, an applicant may apply for and obtain
15 new intern registration status if the applicant meets the educational
16 requirements for registration in effect at the time of the application
17 for a new intern registration. An applicant who is issued a
18 subsequent intern registration pursuant to this subdivision may be
19 employed or volunteer in all allowable work settings except in
20 private practice, ~~and shall fulfill all of the required hours of~~
21 ~~experience for licensure within that intern registration period.~~
22 ~~Hours of experience fulfilled under a prior intern registration shall~~
23 ~~not be used to satisfy licensure requirements.~~

24 Code is amended to read:

25 ~~4980.02. (a) For purposes of this chapter, the practice of~~
26 ~~marriage and family therapy shall mean that service performed~~
27 ~~with individuals, couples, or groups wherein interpersonal~~
28 ~~relationships are examined for the purpose of achieving more~~
29 ~~adequate, satisfying, and productive marriage and family~~
30 ~~adjustments. This practice includes relationship and premarriage~~
31 ~~counseling.~~

32 ~~(b) The application of marriage and family therapy principles~~
33 ~~and methods includes, but is not limited to, diagnosis and the use~~
34 ~~of applied psychotherapeutic techniques, to enable individuals to~~
35 ~~mature and grow within marriage and the family, and the provision~~
36 ~~of explanations and interpretations of the psychosexual and~~
37 ~~psychosocial aspects of relationships.~~

38 ~~(c) For purposes of this section, "diagnosis" means the act or~~
39 ~~process of identifying or determining the mental status of an~~

1 individual through examination and the opinion derived from that
2 examination.

3 SEC. 2.—Section 4996.9 of the Business and Professions Code
4 is amended to read:

5 4996.9. (a) The practice of clinical social work is defined as
6 a service in which a special knowledge of social resources, human
7 capabilities, and the professional use of self to help people to
8 achieve more adequate, satisfying, and productive social,
9 psychosocial, or biopsychosocial functioning, and requires the
10 application of specialized clinical knowledge and advanced
11 clinical skills in the areas of assessment, diagnosis, and treatment
12 of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders, conditions, and
13 addictions.

14 (b) The application of social work principles and methods
15 includes, but is not restricted to, counseling and using applied
16 psychotherapy of a nonmedical nature with individuals, families,
17 or groups; providing information and referral services; providing
18 or arranging for the provision of social services; explaining or
19 interpreting the psychosocial aspects in the situations of
20 individuals, families, or groups; helping communities to organize,
21 to provide, or to improve social or health services; or doing
22 research related to social work.

23 (c) Psychotherapy, within the meaning of this chapter, is the use
24 of psychosocial methods within a professional relationship, to
25 assist the person or persons to achieve a better psychosocial
26 adaptation, to acquire greater human realization of psychosocial
27 potential and adaptation, to modify internal and external
28 conditions which affect individuals, groups, or communities in
29 respect to behavior, emotions, and thinking, in respect to their
30 intrapersonal and interpersonal processes, and to diagnose and
31 treat mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders, conditions, and
32 addictions.

33 SEC. 3.—Nothing in this act is intended to expand the scope of
34 practice of either a marriage and family therapist, or a licensed
35 clinical social worker.